WHAT IS CLAIMED IS

1.   A method comprising:

initializing a boot routine in a computer;

bootstrapping a volume top file located in a first addressable location accessible upon the initializing of the boot routine; and

the volume top file bootstrapping a set of firmware modules.

2.   The method of claim 1 further comprising using the volume top file to locate a dispatcher module.

3.   The method of claim 2 further comprising using the dispatcher module to access the set of firmware modules.

4.   The method of claim 3 in which the set of firmware modules initialize the computer.

5.   The method of claim 1 further comprising using a reset vector to access the volume top file.

6.   The method of claim 1 in which the volume top file includes addresses of the set of firmware modules.

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7.   The method of claim 1 in which the volume top file includes an address of a base of a first firmware module.

8.   The method of claim 7 in which the base of the first firmware module includes a boot firmware volume base.

9.   The method of claim 1 in which the volume top file comprises an authentication block.

10.   The method of claim 1 in which the volume top file validates the set of firmware modules.

11.   The method of claim 1 further comprising designating the volume top file as a last file in the set of firmware modules.

12.   The method of claim 11 in which the designating includes aligning an end of the volume top file with a memory boundary.

13.   The method of claim 11 wherein the memory boundary includes between 4 and 10 giga bytes (Gbyte) of memory.

14. A system comprising:

a non-volatile memory of a computer that initializes a boot routine in the computer;

a processing architecture of the computer configured to bootstrap a volume top file located in a first addressable location accessible upon the initializing of the boot routine; and

the volume top file configured to bootstrap a set of firmware modules

15. The system of claim 14 in which the volume top file is configured to locate a dispatcher module.

16. The system of claim 14 in which the dispatcher module is configured to access the set of firmware modules.

17. The system of claim 14 in which the set of firmware modules are configured to initialize the computer.

18. The system of claim 14 in which the volume top file includes addresses of the set of firmware modules.

19. The system of claim 14 in which the volume top file includes an address of a base of a first firmware module.

20. An apparatus comprising:

a processor;

a non-volatile memory in which is stored:

a volume top file located in a first addressable location of the non-volatile memory accessed by a central processing unit (CPU) of a computer, the volume top file being accessible using a reset vector;

a data structure associated with the first firmware module; and,

a second firmware module accessible by the volume top file.

21. The apparatus of claim 20 in which a first firmware module comprises a distinguished firmware module.

22. The apparatus of claim 20 further comprising a dispatcher module located by the volume top file.

23. The apparatus of claim 20 in which the set of firmware modules include an initialization routine for initializing the computer.

24. The apparatus of claim 20 in which the volume top file includes an address of a base of the second firmware module.

25. The apparatus of claim 24 in which the base of the second firmware module comprises a boot firmware volume base.

26. The apparatus of claim 20 in which the volume top file includes an authentication block.

27. The apparatus of claim 20 in which the volume top file validates the second firmware module.